



The E-Line Bulletin!

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**A FREE E-Mail
Bulletin distributed
to Disabled
Entrepreneurs
&
Disability
Organizations and
Business
Development
Organizations**

**→ You don't want
to miss reading -
Tools & Tips at the
end of this bulletin.**

***"Remember that
20% of your
customers will
deliver 80% of your
business."***

Get on board the E-Line!

The E-Line is a *SEDI* produced E-Bulletin that encourages, supports and promotes the entrepreneurial aspirations of people with disabilities.

For too long, business ownership has been overlooked as a viable option for individuals with disabilities.

The E-Line Bulletin hopes to educate and inform Disabled Entrepreneurs, Disability Organizations and Business Development Organizations about upcoming events, online seminars and online discussions.

Announcing the "Building Bridges" Teleconference Seminar

Join us on Wednesday, March 3rd 2004 and participate in our teleconference seminar. Learn valuable tips and techniques for starting and sustaining a small business. The theme for this session will be around Tax Planning for businesses run by entrepreneurs with disabilities. This seminar will be useful to self-employed people with disabilities and the organizations that serve them.

A panel of knowledgeable business advisors, coaches and experienced business owners will present the seminar and answer questions during the one-hour session. Afterwards, you will be able to post questions to these experts in the "Building Bridges" On-Line Discussion Board.

Seminar time: **Wednesday, March 3rd – 10:00am –11:00am EST**

A dial-in number to the teleconference will be provided once you have registered. Participation in the seminar is free.

Please register for this seminar (*space is limited*) by e-mailing mwong@sedi.org

SEDI'S January Forum

Entrepreneurs with disabilities, representatives from disability organizations and representatives from business development organizations attended a *SEDI* hosted forum at the Marriott Hotel-Eaton Centre on January the 14th. The January forum presented three diverse views on the relevance of self employment for people with disabilities. The panel presenters were; Danish Ahmed, Linda Wilson and Danny Brennan. After the presentation, forum participants were divided into groups and asked to put forward recommendations for online community building activities. Some of the recommendations that came out of this forum are now being implemented.

Musings

- **Have you ever noticed how anyone going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a manic?**
- **Why did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?**
- **Why is it that night falls but day breaks?**

Quotes

***“The difference between genius and stupidity is; genius has its limits.”
Albert Einstein***

The event highlighted some of the findings of the research on building a model for self-employment training for people with disabilities. [Click here](#) to view the presentation on research findings from focus groups held to examine this topic. [Click here](#) for a presentation which reviews U.S. models and trends on self-employment training for people with disabilities. (A copy of the documents can also be accessed through www.sedi.org Resources/Publications)

“Building Bridges” On-Line Discussion

SEDI will begin hosting an exclusive On-Line bulletin board for exchanging business tips for entrepreneurs with disabilities starting **Wednesday, February the 25th**. You can use this forum to contribute your own resource discoveries and favourite entrepreneurial tips, review sources recommended by others, or post questions about your most wanted solutions.

Online discussion forums provide people with resources and information that are instantly accessible, day or night. This forum will use *SEDI*'s own simple-to-use discussion board system. Register now by emailing May Wong at mwong@sedi.org your choice of user name and password (no more than 8 characters).

May will send you a reply with the information you need to be online come launch day!

Entrepreneurial Spirit!

Epiphany Design provides clothing solutions for mobility impaired people and is owned and operated by Joseph Ross. The very amiable Mr. Ross, who has always had entrepreneurial aspirations, opened his business as a creative outlet for his inventive side and as a means to fill a niche for special clothing for people with special needs.

He loves the freedom that being an entrepreneur gives to him and the responsibility of owning his own business has an added bonus. “People tend to look at you differently when they become aware that you run your own business,” notes Mr. Ross.

For more information on Mr. Ross and *Epiphany Design*, visit his terrific web site at: <http://www.epiphanydesign.ca>.

Could A Business Advisor Assist You And Your Business?

Business Advisors and Consultants work with Disabled Entrepreneurs by assessing their current situation, supporting development of future plans and providing options for achieving their goals. They can help link you with the right people, information and business resources to enhance your competitiveness and profitability. (See Tools & Tips section below for a link to advisory services)

Business Advisors and Consultants utilize their business skills and knowledge to:

- Assist in identifying and removing potential barriers to continued

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growth.

- Help you forge partnerships with leading financial sources and other professional services.
- Provide public and private-sector information and contacts to deal with growth-related issues.
- Help identify and overcome potential barriers to continued growth.
- Identify support for new technology. Provide opportunities to develop new business and strategic alliances.
- Identify innovative growth firms; provide advice, information, and linkage to other service providers.

Tools & Tips!

Disabled entrepreneurs can use the internet and its resources as a valuable tool to assist them in the successful day to day operation of their businesses.

The *Enterprise Development Website* provides links to easily access advisory services and/or business centers which will provide the disabled entrepreneur with business information and advice necessary to improve their personal and organizational effectiveness. Click here to view or copy and paste this address into your internet address bar <http://www.enterweb.org/advisory.htm>.

Another interesting and informative website is the *Network for Entrepreneurs With Disabilities (NEWD)*. They are a non-profit organization in Nova Scotia that provides support to entrepreneurial persons with disabilities. *NEWD* also provides assistance and information to entrepreneurs who have already started a business and to those in the communities who are involved with or interested in entrepreneurship for person with disabilities. They have some interesting link addresses and are well worth a visit. Click here to view or copy and paste this address into your internet address bar <http://www.entrepreneurdisability.org/>.